Senate File 2046 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2046 BY CHELGREN

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to tuition and fee waivers for students
- 2 enrolled in postsecondary studies in in-demand career fields
- 3 and to prioritizing certain state grants and scholarships
- 4 for such students.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 84A.1B, Code 2018, is amended by adding 2 the following new subsection: NEW SUBSECTION. 15. Identify and list, in collaboration 4 with the Iowa coordinating council for post-high school 5 education and the local workforce development boards, 6 statewide and regional in-demand career fields for a five-year 7 period succeeding the current calendar year for purposes of 8 tuition and mandatory fees for Iowa's resident students who 9 major in the in-demand career fields as provided in section 10 260C.14, subsection 25, and section 262.9, subsection 39, 11 and prioritizing grants and scholarships administered by the 12 college student aid commission as provided in section 261.2, 13 subsection 13. The list of statewide in-demand career fields 14 compiled by the workforce development board shall be used by 15 the institutions of higher learning governed by the state board 16 of regents and by the college student aid commission. 17 community college shall use the list of regional in-demand 18 career fields compiled by the workforce development board for 19 the regional area in which the community college is located. 20 Sec. 2. Section 260C.14, Code 2018, is amended by adding the 21 following new subsection: 22 25. Annually waive tuition and mandatory NEW SUBSECTION. 23 fees for a resident student who applies for a waiver under 24 this subsection and is enrolled in a program of study leading 25 to a certificate, competency-based credential, postsecondary 26 diploma, or associate degree necessary for employment in an 27 in-demand career field identified and listed by the state 28 workforce development board in accordance with section 84A.lB. 29 The student shall annually complete and submit application 30 forms required by the community college, including the free 31 application for federal student aid, and shall annually apply 32 for all available state and federal financial aid. 33 of tuition and mandatory fees waived for a student under 34 this subsection shall not exceed the amount of the student's 35 financial need. If a student receives nonrepayable financial

- 1 aid under any other state or federal program, the full amount
- 2 of that aid shall be considered part of the student's financial
- 3 resources available before determining the amount of tuition
- 4 and mandatory fees to be waived under this subsection.
- 5 Sec. 3. Section 261.2, Code 2018, is amended by adding the
- 6 following new subsection:
- 7 NEW SUBSECTION. 13. Prioritize Iowa tuition grants awarded
- 8 under sections 261.9 through 261.16A, vocational-technical
- 9 tuition grants awarded under section 261.17, and scholarship
- 10 awards under the all Iowa opportunity scholarship program after
- 11 distribution to eligible foster care students, to give highest
- 12 priority to eligible students who are enrolled in programs of
- 13 study or are majoring in degree programs in in-demand career
- 14 fields identified and listed by the state workforce development
- 15 board under section 84A.1B, subsection 15.
- 16 Sec. 4. Section 262.9, Code 2018, is amended by adding the
- 17 following new subsection:
- 18 NEW SUBSECTION. 39. Annually waive tuition and mandatory
- 19 fees for a resident student who is enrolled at an institution
- 20 of higher learning governed by the board, who applies for a
- 21 waiver under this subsection, and is majoring in a degree
- 22 program leading to a bachelor's degree necessary for employment
- 23 in an in-demand career field identified and listed by the
- 24 state workforce development board in accordance with section
- 25 84A.1B. The student shall annually complete and submit
- 26 application forms required by the institution, including the
- 27 free application for federal student aid, and shall annually
- 28 apply for all available state and federal financial aid. The
- 29 amount of tuition and mandatory fees waived for a student under
- 30 this subsection shall not exceed the amount of the student's
- 31 financial need. If a student receives nonrepayable financial
- 32 aid under any other state or federal program, the full amount
- 33 of that aid shall be considered part of the student's financial
- 34 resources available before determining the amount of tuition
- 35 and mandatory fees to be waived under this subsection.

- 1 Sec. 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
- 2 3, shall not apply to this Act.
- 3 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 6 This bill requires community colleges and regents
- 7 universities to waive tuition and mandatory fees for students
- 8 enrolled in or majoring in programs leading to in-demand
- 9 career fields, and directs the college student aid commission
- 10 to prioritize certain state grants and scholarships to give
- ll priority to students enrolled in or majoring in programs
- 12 leading to in-demand career fields identified and listed by the
- 13 state workforce development board.
- 14 A student enrolled in a community college or regents
- 15 university must apply to the institution of enrollment for a
- 16 waiver, must annually complete and submit application forms
- 17 required by the institution, including the free application for
- 18 federal student aid, and annually apply for all available state
- 19 and federal financial aid. The amount of tuition and mandatory
- 20 fees waived shall not exceed the amount of the student's
- 21 financial need. If a student receives nonrepayable financial
- 22 aid under any other state or federal program, the full amount
- 23 of that aid shall be considered part of the student's financial
- 24 resources available before determining the amount of tuition
- 25 and mandatory fees to be waived.
- 26 The college student aid commission is directed to adopt
- 27 rules that prioritize Iowa tuition grants, vocational-technical
- 28 tuition grants, and all Iowa opportunity scholarship awards to
- 29 give highest priority to eligible students who are enrolled
- 30 in programs of study or are majoring in degree programs in
- 31 in-demand career fields identified and listed by the state
- 32 workforce development board. However, eligible foster care
- 33 students have the highest priority for awards under the all
- 34 Iowa opportunity scholarship program.
- 35 The state workforce development board is directed to

- 1 identify and list, in collaboration with the Iowa coordinating
- 2 council for post-high school education and the local workforce
- 3 development boards, statewide and regional in-demand career
- 4 fields for a five-year period succeeding the current year
- 5 calendar year. The list of statewide in-demand career fields
- 6 shall be used by the regents universities and by the college
- 7 student aid commission. Each community college shall use
- 8 the list of regional in-demand career fields compiled by the
- $9\,$ board for the regional area in which the community college is
- 10 located.
- 11 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
- 12 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
- 13 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
- 14 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of
- 15 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,
- 16 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state
- 17 mandate included in the bill.